

BackupAssist™ v8

Centralized Monitoring Console

User Guide

Contents

1. Overview	2
Considerations	2
Licensing	2
Documentation	2
2. Configuring the Centralized Monitoring Console.....	3
3. Using the Centralized Monitoring console	4
Opening the console	4
Reports menu	4
Manage menu	6
Transactions menu.....	6
Preferences menu	7
My Profile menu	7
4. CMC sample reports.....	8
Report 1: Overnight backup status across all clients	8
Report 2: Last backup status across all clients	9
Report 3: Backup status for an individual client	10
Report 4: Backup Report for an individual job	11
Report 5: Graph of data size for individual backup job.....	11
5. Privacy and Data Collection Policy.....	12

1. Overview

BackupAssist™



Centralized Monitoring provides Reseller customers with access to a secure website where BackupAssist reports can be viewed from any location using a web browser.

Centralized Monitoring allows system administrators who are managing multiple BackupAssist installations to receive one summary report email per day instead of one email per BackupAssist installation. The administrator can also log into a central console to see the status of all machines and view reports from one location.

This is useful for Resellers who have multiple clients running BackupAssist and organizations that have multiple sites and a centralized IT department.

Considerations

- The use of Centralized Monitoring is OPTIONAL – at a VAR/administrator level, at a server level, and at a backup job level.
- Posted information is encrypted while being transmitted via the internet.
- Only the data needed to display the reports is transmitted, and it will not be used for solicitation, sales or marketing purposes. Our privacy and data collection policy outlines exactly what data is transmitted.

Licensing

The Centralized Monitoring Console is only available to Resellers with clients that have a current BackupCare Subscription. All BackupAssist installations require a license once the initial trial period has expired.

For instructions on how to activate / deactivate license keys, visit our [Licensing BackupAssist page](#).

Documentation

This quickstart guide explains how to set up and use the BackupAssist Centralized Monitoring Console (CMC), and should be used in conjunction with the BackupAssist whitepapers. These whitepapers provide in-depth guides to BackupAssist's technologies and functions.

Backup tab

[BackupAssist Backup Tab User Guide](#)

Restore tab

[BackupAssist Restore Tab User Guide](#)

Recover tab

[BackupAssist Recover Tab & RecoverAssist User Guide](#)

2. Configuring the Centralized Monitoring Console

The Centralized Monitoring Setup is used to register a BackupAssist installation with your CMC account using the credentials supplied with your reseller account. This registration is performed on each BackupAssist installation, and the backup jobs selected will be added to your CMC.

To configure (CMC) follow the steps below:

1. Open BackupAssist and select the **Remote** tab.
2. Select **Centralized Monitoring Setup**

Figure 1: CMC registration and monitoring selection screen

3. Enter your credentials:
 - Account ID: Your CMC account number
 - Authorization Key: The password BackupAssist uses to authenticate with the CMC account.

You must have been issued with an account by our team when you signed up as a Gold Reseller of BackupAssist. If you are unsure of these details, please contact support.

If the credentials are correct, you will receive a confirmation message.



4. Select the backups you want to monitor using the CMC.
 - ▶ Your Centralized Monitoring Console is now ready to use.

3. Using the Centralized Monitoring console

Opening the console

To access the CMC using BackupAssist:

1. Open BackupAssist and select the **Remote** tab.
2. Select **Launch Centralized Monitoring** and a logon screen will open.
3. Enter your **Account ID** and **Password** (Your CMC account number and password)

To access CMC directly from a web browser:

1. Open the CMC in a web browser by going to <http://www.backupassist.com/cmc/logout.php>
2. Enter your **Account ID** and **Password** (Your CMC account number and password).

When you log in for the first time, you will be asked to set your preferences. The **Home** menu will display all of the console menus. These menus are described in the following sections.

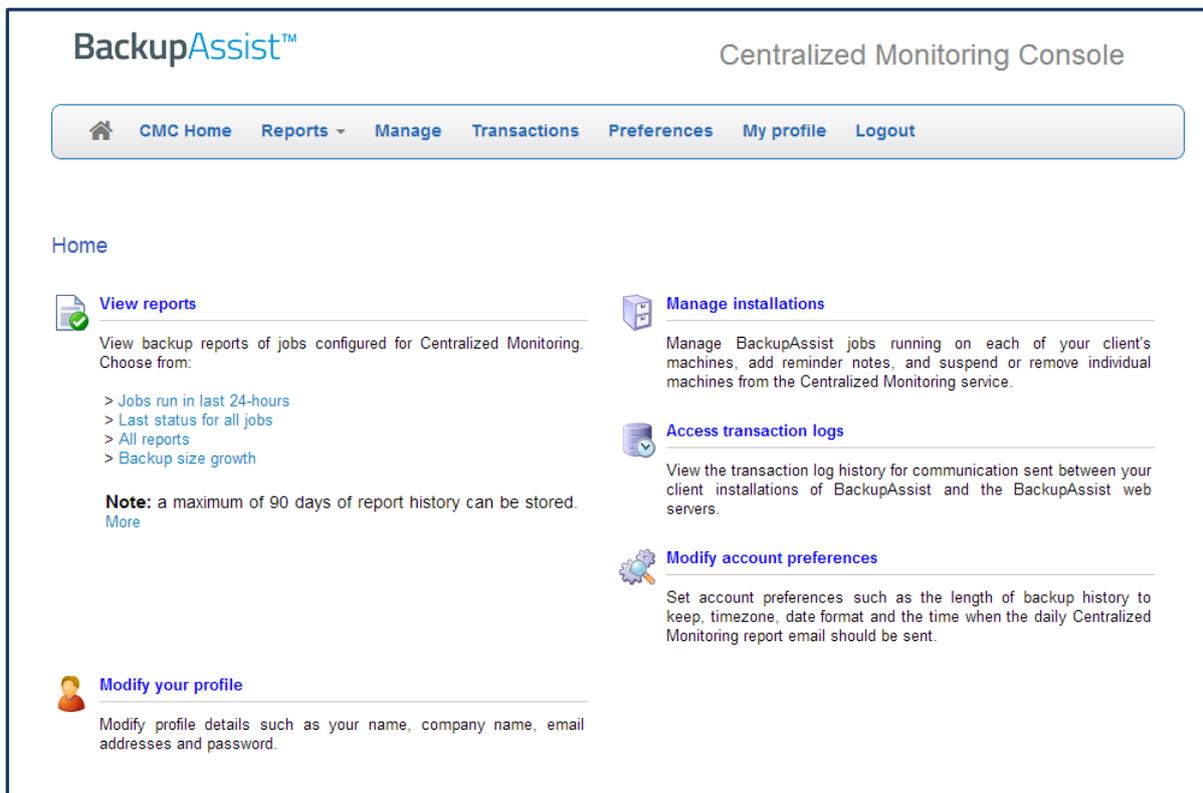


Figure 2: Centralized Monitoring Console - home page

Reports menu

When a backup job registered to your CMC account has completed, BackupAssist will send the report to the CMC. You can then view the reports from a web browser.

The Reports menu provides selections of grouped reports and analysis options for those reports.

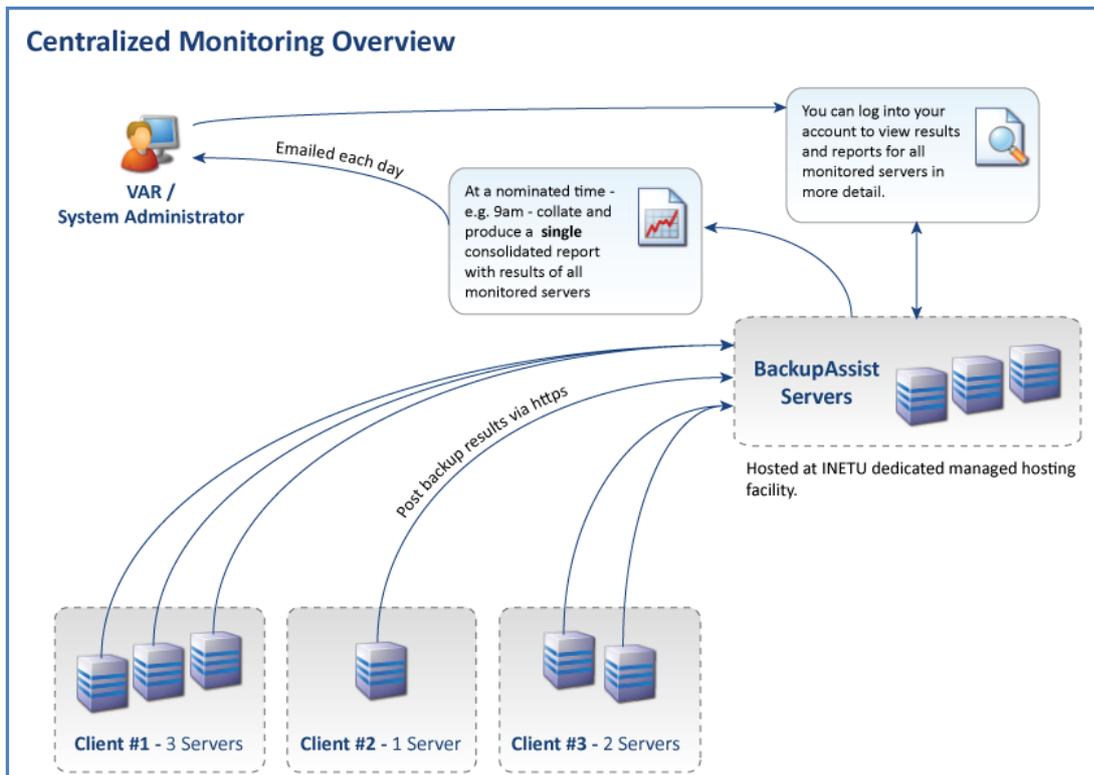


Figure 3: Centralized Monitoring – flow of information between user and BackupAssist installations

To view the different CMC reports, select the report type required from the **Reports** menu. A screen will open with a listing of the reports or the search / filter functions that are used to find the required reports.

There are five backup report screens:

- **Jobs run in the last 24 hours** displays reports received within the 24 hour cutoff limit configured under your CMC account’s preferences.
- **Last status for all jobs** lists the last backup report for all jobs.
- **All Reports** displays all reports. They can be filtered by client, computer and job.
- **Analyze Backup Job** provides criteria to select a set of backup reports. For this selection, a *Data Growth Analysis* chart and a *Performance Analysis* chart will be displayed.
- **Client Summary Report** allows you to generate a *Monthly backup report* and a *Data Growth/BackupAssist performance graphical report*.

The table below summarizes the current report structure.

Report	Emailed daily	View from web login
Overnight back up status across all clients	✓	✓
Last backup status across all clients	✗	✓
Backup status for an individual client	✗	✓
Backup Report for an individual job	✗	✓

Manage menu

This screen displays a list of your BackupAssist installations. Using the *Actions* column, you can select:

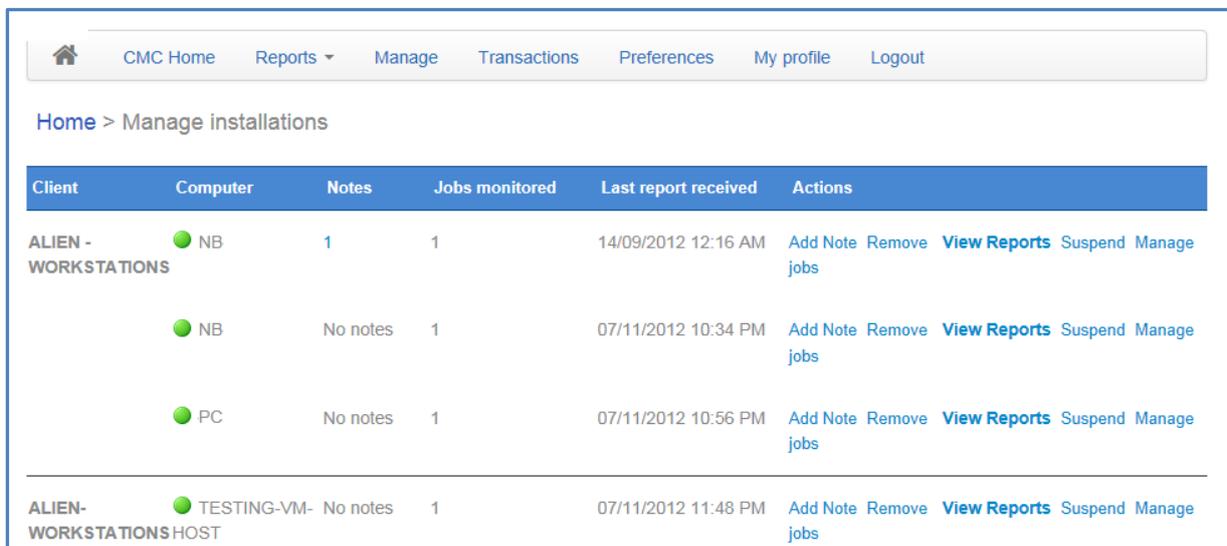
- **Add Note** to add a text note (with an expiry date) to the *Notes* column.
- **View Reports** which will give you the option to load a *Client* or *Data growth*, report filter screen.
- **Manage jobs** to open a new screen where you can view a **Full report** of the last backup run, and **Delete reports** (all reports) from that installation of BackupAssist.

Installations of BackupAssist v7.1 and later have enhanced communication between the CMC and BackupAssist, which improves what the CMC knows about the status of backup jobs on a client.

When changes are made to clients and backup jobs on **installations of BackupAssist v7.0 and earlier**, the CMC may require manual job and client modifications.

Using the *Actions* column, you can select:

- **Remove** will remove a client from the CMC. Reports will no longer be expected from that client.
- **Suspend** will suspend a client. As long as the client is suspended, the CMC will not expect reports.
- **Manage Jobs** will open a new screen with the following options:
Delete job, Pause job and Change next run time. When a backup job on CMC is deleted or paused, CMC will no longer expect reports from that job. For example, if a job had been deleted on the BackupAssist installation, you would delete it from the CMC.



Client	Computer	Notes	Jobs monitored	Last report received	Actions
ALIEN - WORKSTATIONS	NB	1	1	14/09/2012 12:16 AM	Add Note Remove View Reports Suspend Manage jobs
	NB	No notes	1	07/11/2012 10:34 PM	Add Note Remove View Reports Suspend Manage jobs
	PC	No notes	1	07/11/2012 10:56 PM	Add Note Remove View Reports Suspend Manage jobs
ALIEN- WORKSTATIONS HOST	TESTING-VM-	No notes	1	07/11/2012 11:48 PM	Add Note Remove View Reports Suspend Manage jobs

Figure 4: CMC – Manage menu

Transactions menu

This menu displays a log of your CMC activity, such as jobs run and processed, and emails sent. This information is mainly used for debugging technical issues.

Transaction ID	Transaction type	Message	Logged on	Originated from I.P.
21247361	DailyEmail	Daily email sent to EMAIL Account name :	26/03/2013 9:00 AM	
21228855	JobProcessed	Organization: Stus PC ComputerWS name :iSCSI Alienware - , job completed	25/03/2013 11:16 PM	
21228830	JobComplete	Job complete received from - Computer name : WS-014e844c-22a6-4090-be2c-d385bad1a59e	25/03/2013 11:15 PM	150.101.221.18
21216210	DailyEmail	Daily email sent to EMAIL Account name :	25/03/2013 9:00 AM	

Preferences menu

This menu is used to enter your regional details, display preferences and the email addresses to send reports to. Multiple addresses can be added using a semi colon and a space, then the next address.

CMC Home	Reports	Manage	Transactions	Preferences	My profile	Logout
Home > My account preferences						
My logo:		<input type="text"/>		<input type="button" value="Browse..."/>	<input type="button" value="Upload"/>	
Report history:	<input type="text" value="90 days"/>					
Your timezone:	<input type="text" value="Australia/Melbourne"/>					
Date format:	<input type="text" value="31/12/08"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Show date and time			
Time format:	<input type="text" value="h:mm tt"/>					
Cut-off time:	<input type="checkbox"/> Let the system decide cut-off time (defaults to 9.15 - any change applied within 24 hours)					
	h:	<input type="text" value="9"/>	m:	<input type="text" value="00"/>		
This time designates the 24 hour period for the "Jobs run in the last 24 hours" report. For example, a cut-off time of 9h 30m will mean that the report will include all jobs that ran from 9.30am until 9.30am the next day (24 hours)						
Email contents:	<input type="text" value="HTML"/>					
Name:	<input type="text"/>					

My logo: Select Browse to locate the image you would like to use and select Upload. The image will appear on your email notifications.

Email: The Last Status for all jobs report will be sent to this email address each day. Leave this field blank if you do not want to receive a daily email. You can include multiple email address separated by a semi-colon.

Time zone, Time format and Date format: These fields are used to set the time that your daily backup report will be sent. The details contained in the report will reflect the backup at the time the report was sent.

My Profile menu

This screen is used to enter your personal details, CMC Authorization key and CMC password.

4. CMC sample reports

Report 1: Overnight backup status across all clients

This summary table shows the status of jobs that ran the previous night (or alternatively, in the 24 hours leading up to the daily cut-off time). This report will be delivered via email each night. Jobs that ran in the last 24 hours for monitoring account "First Computers Pty Ltd":

Jobs that require urgent attention

Client	Computer	Job Name	Last successful*	
Carrot Ltd	SBSSERVER Ver. 4.1.0	Daily USB HDD backup	26/May/2008 10 days ago	Click for details
Apple Ltd	SBSSERVER Ver. 4.0.16	Daily full tape backup	02/June/2008 3 days ago	Click for details

Results for 06 June 2008

Client	Computer	Job Name	Last Result	Date Run	Duration	Size	Next Run	Last successful*
Apple Ltd	SBSSERVER Ver. 4.0.16	Daily full tape backup	Errors occurred BA211 - No tape in the tape drive Full report	5/6/20081h5m 03:00 AM		30.6GB	6/6/2008 03:00 AM	02/June/2008 3 days ago
			Successful Full report	5/6/200845m 04:30 AM	10GB	9/6/2008 12:00 AM	Last backup	
Carrot Ltd	FILESVR Ver. 4.0.13	Weekly CD/DVD backup	Major warnings BA237 - The wrong external hard disk is connected. Full report	5/6/20081h35m 04:00 AM		15.5GB	6/6/2008 04:00 AM	26/May/2008 10 days ago
			Minor warnings BA705 - One or more files were skipped Full report	5/6/200845m 06:00 AM	3.6GB	12/6/2008 06:00 AM	Last backup	
			Successful Full report	5/6/20082h5m 03:00 AM	70.4GB	6/6/2008 03:00 AM	Last backup	
Durian Ltd	SBSSERVER Ver. 4.0.16	Weekly tape backup	Errors occurred BA235 - Cannot find external hard drive - ensure it is connected Full report	5/6/20082h5m 03:00 AM		30.3GB	12/6/2008 03:00 AM	22/May/2008 14 days ago
			Successful Full report	5/6/20082h5m 03:00 AM	70.2GB	7/6/2008 03:00 AM	Last backup	

***Last successful:** Specifies date when this backup was last successful

Report 2: Last backup status across all clients

This report is similar to Report #1 but shows the last result of every monitored backup job, including those that did not run in the last 24 hours (for example, backups jobs that run once each week).

Last Backup Results for monitoring account "First Computers Pty Ltd"

Client	Computer	Job Name	Last Result	Date Run	Duration	Size	Next Run	Last successful*
Apple Ltd	SBSSERVER Ver. 4.0.16	 Daily full tape backups	 Errors occurred BA211 - No tape in the tape drive Full report	5/6/2008 03:30 AM	1h5m	30.6GB	6/6/2008 03:00 AM	02/June/2008 3 days ago 
	FILESERVER Ver. 4.0.14	 Weekly tape backup	 Successful	2/6/2008 12:00 AM	45m	10GB	9/6/2008 12:00 AM	Last backup
	FILESERVER Ver. 4.0.14	 Weekly CD/DVD Backup	 Successful	1/6/2008 12:00 AM	1h15m	4GB	8/6/2008 12:00 AM	Last backup
Carrot Ltd	SBSSERVER Ver. 4.0.16	 Daily USB HDD backup	 Major warnings BA237 - The wrong external hard disk is connected. Full report	5/6/2008 04:00 AM	1h35m	15.5GB	6/6/2008 04:00 AM	26/May/2008 10 days ago 
	FILESVR Ver. 4.0.13	 Weekly CD/DVD backup	 Minor warnings BA705 - One or more files were skipped Full report	5/6/2008 06:00 AM	45m	3.6GB	12/6/2008 06:00 AM	Last backup
	EXCHSVR Ver. 4.1.0	 Daily NAS backup	 Successful Full report	5/6/2008 03:00 AM	2h5m	70.4GB	6/6/2008 03:00 AM	Last backup
Durian Ltd	SBSSERVER Ver. 4.0.16	 Weekly tape backup	 Errors occurred BA235 - Cannot find external hard drive - ensure it is connected Full report	5/6/2008 03:00 AM	2h5m	30.3GB	12/6/2008 03:00 AM	22/May/2008 14 days ago 
	EXCHSVR2 Ver. 4.1.1	 Daily NAS backup	 Successful Full report	5/6/2008 03:00 AM	2h5m	70.2GB	7/6/2008 03:00 AM	Last backup

***Last successful:** Specifies the date when this backup was last successful. This includes any backup that completed successfully or with minor warnings.

Report 3: Backup status for an individual client

This view is similar to the Reports screen in BackupAssist. Resellers can access this report from their Reseller Portal.

Backup History

Client: Carrot Ltd	Computer: All	Job: All	View the Last: 10 reports
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Date Run	Job Name	Label	Computer	Backup Result	Duration	Size
6/6/2008 Full report	 Daily full tape backup	Monday	SBSSERVER	 Errors occurred BA211 - No tape in the tape drive	1h5m	30.6GB
6/6/2008 Full report	 Daily NAS backup	Monday	EXCHSVR	 Successful	45m	10GB
6/6/2008 Full report	 Daily REV drive backup	Monday	SBSSVR1	 Successful	1h35m	15.5GB
6/6/2008 Full report	 Daily USB HDD backup	Monday	SBSSERVER	 Major warnings BA237 - The wrong external hard disk is connected.	45m	3.6GB
6/6/2008 Full report	 Weekly tape backup	Week 1	FILESERVER	 Successful	2h5m	70.4GB
5/6/2008 Full report	 Weekly CD/DVD backup	Week 1	FILESVR	 Minor warnings BA705 - One or more files were skipped	2h5m	30.3GB
3/6/2008 Full report	 Daily full tape backup	Friday	SBSSERVER	 Errors occurred BA235 - Cannot find external hard drive - ensure it is connected	2h5m	70.2GB
3/6/2008 Full report	 Daily NAS backup	Friday	EXCHSVR	 Successful	2h5m	66.4GB
3/6/2008 Full report	 Daily USB HDD backup	Friday	SBSSERVER	 Successful	1h10m	25GB

Report 4: Backup Report for an individual job

This is the HTML as generated when a user clicks on a backup job execution from the Reports tab in BackupAssist. This report is very similar to the reports currently generated in BackupAssist.

Errors / Warnings Summary

Process	Error / Warning
Drive Image	BA25 The user cancelled the backup

Backup Job Summary

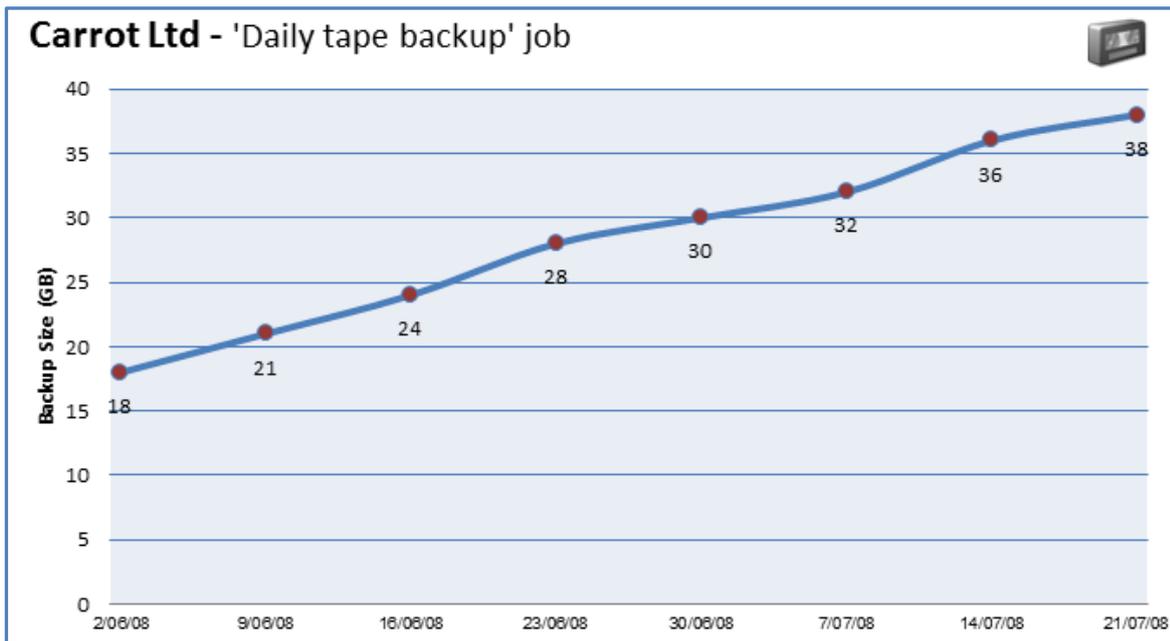
Item	Details / Results
BackupAssist Version	5.0beta
Computer Name	LNUS-LIFEBOOK
Backup User	Linus-Lifebook\linus.chang
Backup Media	Daily 1
Backup Destination	External hard drive

Report 5: Graph of data size for individual backup job

Simple line chart showing data growth. This report will be available through a reseller's online portal.

Data Growth

Client: Job: Date range:



Quick Stats			Media Usage for Last Backup		
	Data Size (in GB)	Date of Backup	Backup Device	Data Capacity	Capacity Used
Min. Backup Size	18 GB	02/06/2008	HPDAT72 (4mm DDS)	20 / 40 GB	38GB (95%)* ⚠
Max. Backup Size	38GB	21/07/2008			

*Latest backup used 95% of the device's maximum capacity.

5. Privacy and Data Collection Policy

How is data transmitted?

Data is sent to the BackupAssist servers via HTTPS – meaning the data is strongly encrypted when it is transmitted across the Internet.

What data is transmitted?

Only the data outlined below is transmitted to the BackupAssist servers.

For reporting purposes:

- The HTML report. Same as the report viewable from the BackupAssist Console. (Status, start date/time, end date/time, BackupAssist version, computer name, any warning or errors, data size).
- Backup Engine Type (e.g. NTBackup, SQL, Exchange Mailbox, Drive Imaging)
- Job key and execution key
- Next expected run date
- Organization name for the client (to identify them in the reports)

For authentication purposes:

- Centralized Monitoring Account ID
- Pre-shared Authorization Key (a non-human-readable hash)
- BackupAssist Installation ID (a non-human-readable GUID)
- BackupAssist Product Keys

How long is data stored?

The data will be stored for 100 days to meet the current minimum reporting requirements. However, the minimum periods may change and the data could be stored for longer periods.

Where is data stored?

Data is stored on our servers, which currently run RedHat Enterprise Linux and are hosted by InetU Inc. Our servers are dedicated servers – they are not shared with any other company or user. InetU specialize in Managed Hosting, and have been highly ranked by NetCraft (even #1 at times) for reliability. InetU also monitor the security on our servers for things like intruder detection, etc.

Analysis of data for troubleshooting purposes

We reserve the right to analyze errors reported by BackupAssist for the purposes of improving our software and services to our clients. For example, periodically we may choose to data mine and rank the most commonly reported errors to try to solve them or streamline the debugging process. Our only interest is to improve the BackupAssist user experience.

Data is not collected for solicitation, sales or marketing purposes

None of the data sent contains names, addresses or contact details. Additionally, we will not approach your clients for any solicitation, sales or marketing purposes. In the event that we need to correspond with someone regarding a particular BackupAssist installation, it will be done to the registered owner of the Centralized Monitoring account – i.e. the VAR or system administrator.

Notification in case of discovery of bugs

If we discover major bugs in our software that are affecting your servers under management, we will endeavor to contact you and notify you so that you can take corrective action. However, we are not under any obligation to notify you of such bugs and cannot guarantee that this will be done.